

MRS. COWLES FREE OF HUSBAND

Judge Grants Divorce
Without Sensational
Hearing Expected.

BAD TREATMENT ALONE CHARGED

Decree Gives Care and Custody
of the Children to Each
Parent Alternately.

Portsmouth, N. H., Sept. 1.—Mrs. Florence H. Cowles, of Brookline, was granted an absolute divorce to-day from Dr. E. S. Cowles, of this city, by Chief Justice Robert G. Pike, of the Superior Court, after a hearing which greatly disappointed the large number of spectators, who were expecting something sensational.

It was the closing of one of the oddest cases heard in this country for years, after a special session of court called for this hearing had waited two days while attorneys on both sides tried to reach a settlement. The decree was the result of an agreement between counsel reached after an all-night conference, and was announced after an uncontested hearing of the kind brought by Mrs. Cowles against her husband for divorce on the ground of treatment injurious to her health.

The decree is granted on the ground alone, all charges of infidelity being withdrawn. The custody and education of the minor children are committed to Dr. Cowles and Mrs. Cowles jointly. The children are to be given into the possession of their father at once for six months, after which time they are to go to their mother for a like period, and so on for three years, when, on the petition of either party, a further order of the court will be made respecting custody of the children.

During the possession of the children by either party the other party shall have the right to see them and have the custody of them for at least one day in each week and as much more as may be reasonable under the circumstances. One party is to have the children on Thanksgiving and the other party on Christmas, as they may agree.

The children are to be educated by a governess to be employed and paid by Dr. Cowles. If Mrs. Cowles desires to employ a different governess while the children are in her possession she may do so on condition that she pay all wages and expenses of the governess.

While the children are with Mrs. Cowles they shall remain in the State of Massachusetts, and while with Dr. Cowles they shall remain in the State of New Hampshire. Either party may have the right to take them to either of the states named, but to no other state, and to take them without permission of the court. It is the intention that jurisdiction of the parties as well of the children be retained by the court.

BELMONT PARK SIFT BEGUN BY WHITMAN

Governor Investigates Stories of
Gambling at Track.

[From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune.]
Albany, Sept. 1.—Roused by complaints that gambling was in full swing at the Belmont Park racetrack, Governor Whitman took action to-night.

The Governor engaged the William J. Burns Detective Agency to investigate the alleged gambling. He sent telegrams to Lewis J. Smith, District Attorney of Nassau County, and to Sheriff Stephen P. Pettit, announcing that he would hold them personally responsible if the law is violated at the racetrack.

Sheriff Pettit was told that he had the power to enforce the law and could summon as many deputies to his aid as he needed. District Attorney Smith was informed that he had abundant power to prevent gambling.

ROOKIE TO AID G. A. R. MEN

Alexander Smith Cochran Will Pay for
Washington Trip.

Alexander Smith Cochran, carpet manufacturer and yachtman, who is at the Plattsburgh military training camp, will defray the expenses of sending Civil War veterans of York county to the Grand Army encampment in Washington this month.

Colonel John Shotts, commander of the Westchester County Grand Army Association, made the announcement yesterday at a meeting of the City Club of York. Mr. Cochran has agreed to pay the transportation and all expenses of the veterans while in the national capital.

Wesson Oil Day & Day

Engle State Campaign Committee.

4:30 p. m. Meeting of the committee of the Engle State Campaign Committee at the home of Mrs. M. E. Engle, 204 E. 10th Ave.

Woman Suffrage Party.

8:30 p. m. Meeting of the Women's Suffrage Committee at the home of Mrs. M. E. Engle, 204 E. 10th Ave.

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PIANO SOOTHES BLACKWELL'S WOE

"Black Patti" "in Heaven"
as She Touches Keys
of Woman's Gift.

MEN PRISONERS TO SHARE MUSIC

"Tipperary" Stirs Them Too
Much and Will Be Barred
on Concert Programme.

The Black Patti of Blackwell's Island brought her fingers down on the keyboard of the piano just presented to the women's prison there by Mrs. J. Sergeant Cram and glided into the opening bars of "The Rosary."

"Ah feel lak Ah was in Heben," she said when she had warbled the first stanza. "Ah tol' Miss Harris yes-day Ah thought Ah should die if Ah couldn't play something. An' then comes this piano, which sure am a lovely one."

The Black Patti wasn't the only one of the 300 or more women prisoners happy over Mrs. Cram's gift. The men convicts who heard about it were likewise excited. For Miss Mary Harris, matron of the women's prison, intends to share the gift with them. On Labor Day Mrs. Cram is going over with Commissioner Davis to preside over an entertainment, in which the prisoners will be the performers.

The Black Patti is a musician of repute among her people. She makes her living playing in moving picture theatres, but, losing her job temporarily a few months ago, she took to playing for \$2 a night at parties. It wasn't her fault that one woman who offered her \$2 for a night's music kept a house of questionable repute and that the detectives chose that particular time to raid it. She was taken in the act of playing "The Maiden Prayer," and the judge gave her six months just for luck. It is her first experience in prison.

She was invited out of her cell, to which she had been taken for the night, to christen Mrs. Cram's gift yesterday. She began the concert with "The Rosary," which is her favorite, and went on with "Tipperary." That last tune she had to play softly, for Miss Harris says it simply drives the prisoners, especially the men, crazy, and is rigidly barred from their concert.

Until recently the women's prison had a negro glee club, organized and managed by Mrs. William Nichols, wife of the Protestant chaplain at Blackwell's Island. The membership was shifting, owing to a way the Blackwell's Island population has of changing, and sometimes there were seven or eight sopranos and no altos, and sometimes there were more altos than they could sing. She was a source of great pleasure to the prisoners. Recently it has languished, as Mrs. Nichols has not been well, but Miss Harris says it is going to be revived now.

The thought of sending the instrument came to the wife of the Public Service Commissioner during a trip to the island lately, and she acted on it promptly. She was accompanied yesterday by Miss Harris and went to see if it had arrived safely and to consult Miss Harris about the entertainment, which, as Black Patti said, is "going to make Labor Day seem shorter."

GUARD LOSES FOUR OFFICERS

Judge Advocate and Three Others Go
on Retired List.

Major Louis L. Babcock, judge advocate, 4th Brigade, N. G. N. Y., has resigned, and at his own request has been placed on the retired list, after more than fifteen years' service.

Major Samuel A. Brown, medical department, surgeon on the staff of Brigadier General George R. Dyer, 1st Brigade, has resigned on account of business.

Major William F. Campbell, medical corps, surgeon attached to the 2d Brigade, has been placed on the reserve list at his own request.

Captain Charles W. Martine, 23d Infantry, at his own request has been placed on the retired list, after more than twenty-five years' service.

Clinton M. Lucas has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the 1st Field Artillery and assigned to Battery D. Lieutenant Edward J. Westcott, 10th Infantry, has been detailed as an assistant to Adjutant General Stokesbury. Edward F. Winnek has been commissioned second lieutenant in the 3d Infantry and assigned to Company H.

POLICE CURB ROWDIES, FORGET GAYNOR ORDERS

New Vagrancy Clause Also Aid
to Safer Streets.

That the members of the Police Department have entirely recovered from the effects of the late Mayor Gaynor's order prohibiting the use of the nightstick under penalty of heavy fines or dismissal is evidenced in a report made by Chief Inspector Schmittberger, showing that the police had the rowdy situation well in hand. They made this year 1,071 arrests for rowdiness, against 622 for the same period in 1914. For a time after the Gaynor order rowdiness flourished, as the police feared to use their clubs.

This work will be materially aided by an amendment to the vagrancy law, which became effective yesterday. Under the law now the police may only arrest as a vagrant any street loiterer, male or female, but on of any house in which men or women gather for the purpose of inducing another to commit an immoral or illegal act.

Under the vagrancy law amendment the master is placed in the same category as a woman of the street. District Attorney Perkins yesterday declared that the law now makes a vagrant any person who loiters with a public place with the purpose of inducing another to commit an immoral or illegal act.

YOUNG AMERICAN IDEAS SENT HOME

Twoscore Runaway Boys
Reached England and Enlisted.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Sept. 1.—Martial spirit runs high in the American boy, as American Embassy officials can vouch. Nearly fifty youngsters have been sent home because their parents or guardians thought they were too young to lead the life of a soldier.

Most of them had run away to Canada, where they gave false information as to age and nationality and got into the ranks of the Canadian army. As a rule they enjoyed the life immensely and strenuously objected to being sent home. There are some cases where they actually got to the front, but most are still in the training stage.

It Is Easier for a Camel to Go Through a Needle's Eye than for a Rich Woman to Enter the Kingdom of Labor.

That Is Why the Woman's Exchange Deserves Support
Quite as Much as Social Settlements and Bide-a-Wee Homes
for Dumb Animals.

THE poverty stricken gentlewoman is a figure not recorded in the annals of charity. The inconspicuous life of a "first family" lady living in the faded shadows of former splendor is not a "case" for the settlement house or the social worker, and yet there she is, hundreds of times, suffering, hungry, shabby and gently proud. It is for this woman that the Woman's Exchange has become an institution; it is for her dainty needlework, replicas of the linens and laces that were once in her boxes by the dozens, that this particular sort of business has become so useful, has been so instrumental in effecting true charity—helping people to help themselves.

To-day, when the activity of the New York Exchange for Women's Work is known and duplicated in almost every city of the United States, it is strange to find that few people know anything of the origin and first stages of the work, or even the name of its founder, Mrs. William G. Choate.

"The inception of the Exchange," said Mrs. Choate, "was the result of a natural interest in educated women obliged to face misfortune of various kinds without any training which fitted them to deal intelligently with the question of self-support, or do any work well enough for the exacting market of these days. One carries a thread, perhaps for years, waiting for a trifling experience to make a long-drawn-out scheme a reality. So it was that a clever woman painted some dinner cards and brought them to one who had long thought of some organized effort for helpless gentlewomen in need of remunerative occupation. It was her second effort to earn money. With much temerity she went with her first work into a large fashionable store in New York and asked if they could use these dinner cards. She was passed from one to another and finally a man in authority said: 'Why, yes, I think we can dispose of them if you don't put too high a price on your work. What do you want for them?' Holding her breath for fear that in her ignorance she would lose the sale of her first effort, she said: 'Would \$2 for half a dozen be too much?' 'No,' he replied in a hesitating fashion, 'I think not,' and she gladly accepted the paltry sum. Behind the scenes they had been passed around and she heard them declared very beautiful, original and that they would like any number of them at that price. The first customer who saw them gladly pay \$12 for a dozen

and walked off delighted that she had found something with which to entertain her guests. The same customer is now selling her cards for \$12 at the Exchange minus the 10 per cent, and that is the friendly relationship existing there between women who sell their work and those who want to buy it.

"The small charge of 10 per cent for selling our goods has been criticised by business men who know nothing about the profit on work done by hand and in small quantities, to the worker. To charge a commission equal to the whole cost of doing the business as advised by these critics, or even substantially more than 10 per cent, would defeat the whole purpose of the Exchange, because on such terms the consignors would realize little or no profit. "The Exchange is now a large store where people come as to any store and ask for what they want. If it is not in stock they know that they can have it made or found for them, as we have consignors who, having used their eyes and night for years are obliged to rest them, now shop for people, or collect furniture, bric-a-brac or any novelties for those who gladly pay for services.

"It has been the iron rule of the Exchange since its doors were opened that 'No order must be refused.' Coincidents often enliven the hardest day and put a needed prop under the foundations of faith. A woman one hot day in July when passing through town on her way to the mountains dropped in to see that all was right at this most interesting shop in the world to her. From the order desk came a hearty welcome and the words: 'Oh, I am so glad you have come, for the 'iron rule' is in danger of being broken because demand and supply seem to be out of joint to-day. A customer has ordered several hundred dollars worth of table and bed linen to be embroidered, and all to be done as soon as possible. Obeying orders I told her it could be done and in the given time. I have written and telegraphed, but this is the time of vacations and a desperate feeling was making this hot day hotter when I saw your face'.

"The instigator of the rule, regardless of appearance, walked to the street door and sat down on the steps for more air and courage. She wondered if, for a general rule, it might not have been better to use gutta-serena rather than iron. The sky was yellow

WARD WILL STOP PARK AUTO TAX

Commissioner to Revoke Check-
ing Privilege, Granted, He
Says, for Protection.

Following the publication in The Tribune yesterday of the fact that motorists were complaining of an extension of the check graft, Park Commissioner Cabot Ward, in whose absence from the city the Dougherty Detective Agency obtained the privilege of assessing motorists who wished to park their cars in the Speedway near Polo Grounds, announced that the privilege would be revoked as soon as the Corporation Counsel's office assured him it could be legally done.

"I expect such assurance at once," he said, "and as soon as it is received I will act. The permit should not have been issued, and if I had been in New York it would not have been. It was a mistake to issue it."

"My first knowledge there was such a privilege outstanding was when I returned here on Monday and found complaints from citizens on my desk. I found that the Acting Commissioner, proceeding upon complaints of thefts from motors parked in the Speedway, had made this arrangement as the best way to stop such thefts. But I also found that the rights given by that privilege were exceeded. It was not the intention of the department and the permit did not give the right to the holder to force his services upon those who did not want them. It was the idea that he might check, that extra protection might be given those who might ask it."

"It was not the intention that the holder of the privilege should exclude or attempt to exclude any person from parking his machine. "In some cases I believe it has been held that despite a clause to the contrary a privilege cannot be revoked by an amendment. Whether that applies to this case or not, I am not applying to learn from the Corporation Counsel's office, as I have no desire to plunge into a lawsuit."

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"The greatest need of all is that this country shall wake up to a sense of the abject poverty existing among educated people."

"Is it not possible that the cruel lack of sympathy with which the clever too often treat the less fortunate may be the unpardonable sin?"

"In a country where every conceivable effort is made for those living in the slums, surely the most helpless class will not ask for patronage in vain."

"So many women have no way but weary days of waiting, watching the advertising columns, borrowing money with which to advertise."

"So many women are forced to accept work from an employer whose presence is an insult to purity."

In the West, workmen with their dinner pails were going home, shop girls with their day's work done were free from care and ready for the roof-garden or the play. Those about her seemed to have already enough to do, but presently she saw on the opposite side of the street a beautiful woman looking anxiously for so nothing. She was tall, with snow-white hair and dressed in the handsome jetted garments so becoming to that coloring. She was the anxious woman on the steps said to herself. There is no hope for me there. Suddenly she crossed the street and came up the steps with the question "Will you kindly tell me what this society helps women to?"

"Anything they can do well," was the reply, "or are willing to let me do well." "Do you think that I could get something to do here?" and, blushing, she continued, "don't judge me by my clothes. They were bought in Paris a year ago when I supposed I had enough for my lifetime, and now I will do anything that is respectable to earn money." Everything about her was artistic, and only desperation and the feeling that the great superintendent of all work had sent a workman when she was needed gave her listener courage to say: "Can you make button-holes?" I have a pretty medal for the best ones ever made in the convent," she modestly replied. It was easy enough after that to ask if she could do fine embroidery and easy to believe that she told the truth when she said that she had a medal for that as well. So in five minutes all arrangements were made for samples. A soon employment began for this opportune

stranger which supported her as long as she lived.

"In summing up I want to say that the greatest need of all is that the men and women of this country shall wake up to a realizing sense of the abject poverty existing among educated people. I pray most earnestly for this awakening, because I know that in a country where every conceivable effort is made for those living in the slums, and where helpless dumb animals are not neglected, that certainly the most helpless class will not ask for patronage in vain. So many women have no way but weary days of waiting, watching the advertising columns of the papers, borrowing a little, perhaps, with which to advertise, suffering the most demoralizing of all experiences to a gentleman-hunger with no money to spare for food and forced at last to accept work uncongenial and unprofitable and it may be from an employer whose very presence is an insult to purity. Is it not possible that the cruel lack of sympathy and patience with which the clever too often treat the less fortunate may be the unpardonable sin?"

Last year there were 1,600 consignors on the books of the exchange. In thirty-six years of its existence it has paid to self-supporting women, \$1,842,198.70, and each woman helped was of gentle birth and upbringing.

The present home of the New York Exchange for women's work is 334 Madison Avenue, and much of its vital success is due to the tender sympathy, gentle, unflinching, and understanding love of the superintendent, Miss Emily Lansing.

QUARTER CENTURY OF YOUTH HAS KNOWN KIND FAIRFIELD

Fresh Air Farm on Sound Shore Has a Real Child
Fattening Plant, with Bright Rooms and
Broad, Well Filled Orchards.

Twenty-five of the thousand children who are now in the country on Tribune Fresh Air outings are being entertained at Elm Cottage, Fairfield, Conn.

It was just about a quarter of a century ago, when the Tribune Fresh Air Fund was in its fourteenth year, that the Fresh Air idea took root in Fairfield. Every summer from that time to the present between 100 and 125 girls from the poor districts of New York have received a happy fortnight in this pleasant Sound shore village.

It was due to the Rev. Dr. Frank S. Child that the work of providing country outings for the children of the poor was first taken up here. To him also is due the fact that the interest in the work has not been allowed to flag in twenty-five years.

Not many years after the first party of children was received support of the work became so generous that it was decided to build a model Fresh Air home in which to entertain the guests of the village each year. Elm Cottage was the result of the movement, and a visitor to it will agree after an inspection of the house and grounds that the ambition of its builders has been fully realized.

The cottage stands in the outskirts of the village on a quiet road leading down to the Sound shore, about five minutes' walk. Over it tower the trees which gave the place its name, great elms such as may be found only in the older New England towns.

The fact that impresses you about the house itself is that its planners had "fresh air" in mind in all their calculations. You see that at once, as you walk through its wide halls, peep into the sunlit dining room and exclaim with delight at its many-windowed dormitory.

But the good planning of the people interested in Elm Cottage did not stop with the building. They planned and

SEVEN AT START INCREASE TO 1,500

Women's City Club Membership
Has Record Growth in
Short Time.

The Women's City Club grows apace. It began with seven members, and at a meeting at the Hotel Biltmore yesterday it was announced that it will be incorporated shortly, with a membership of at least seven hundred. The committee of one hundred women attending to preliminary arrangements will each submit the names of twenty-five women, and from these the club will be formed.

Mrs. Norman deR. Whitehouse, chairman of the club, presided yesterday. Other women there were Mrs. Charles Beard, Mrs. John Dewey, Mrs. William Einstein, Mrs. Emanuel Einstein, Mrs. Perth Rembaum, Mrs. Emily Lansing, Mrs. Anne O'Hagan, Mrs. Rheta Childs, Mrs. Dorr, Mrs.

Henry Villard, Mrs. Claudia Murphy, Miss Alice Carpenter and Miss Katharine Leckie.

Miss Rembaum has been deputed to draw up a tentative constitution, and most of the discussion was about that. Three committees are to be named by the chairman, and will report at the next meeting. They are on membership, constitution and election of a house. The club may take the Colony Club building in Madison Avenue, when that organization moves to its new home.

Mrs. Whitehouse, Mrs. Henry Wise Miller, Mrs. Ogden Mills Reid, Mrs. Claudia Murphy, Dr. Katharine B. Davis, Miss Alice Carpenter and Mrs. Catharine were the original seven of the club, which is to deal with serious things, and is to be as unlike the ordinary women's club as a man's club is.

City Gains 80,000 Hours Daily.

Beginning yesterday, the city will gain approximately 80,000 hours a day from its employees. The summer working hours from 9 to 4 have been supplanted by the regular work period of 9 to 5. The winter schedule went into effect yesterday in all of the offices.

TEACHERS' PENSIONS CUT

Controller Warns Them of Smaller
September Payments.

Controller Frederickson yesterday sent to retired public school teachers an official announcement that owing to the bankruptcy of their pension fund the September payments would have to be considerably decreased. The letter reads:

"The Public School Teachers' Retirement Fund is seriously depleted. We are enabled to pay the full amount of the annuities for the month of August, but the condition of the fund is such that a diminished payment is probable in September. "This notice is sent to you in advance, so that you may adjust your affairs accordingly. We cannot say at this moment what the amount of the payment will be. The amount will have to be determined by the Board of Education, which, under the charter, is responsible for the management of the fund. As soon as a practicable form of receipt will be mailed to you, which you will kindly return as usual to the city paymaster, so that your check can be sent."

CHILDISH FEET PATTERN OVER BONES OF DEAD

Spirits Serene as Youths Dance
on Old Potter's Field.

The boys and girls of Greenwich Village danced and romped yesterday afternoon upon the spot near the Washington Arch where, eighty years ago, New York had its Potter's Field. Perhaps some of the children were one-stopping over the bones of their own ancestors, who could not possibly have felt insulted had they been able to see the happy faces of the children.